producing the ounce of arsenic which he had purchased – a full ounce – Now my examination proves that arsenic from the same jar as that from which the accused bought (Garland arsenic) was very different from the ounce produced by him during the preliminary trial. Hence his explanation must be false. Again I find that the arsenic from the stomach is substantially unchanged, and is identical with the Garland sample, like that which the accused originally purchased – You see it is quite a story, and requires a good deal of careful work.

I shall take at some time to be in a position to show my appreciation of your kindness, otherwise than by words. I will write myself and thank Mr. Field for the samples sent.

With further acknowledgments
Sincerely yours E. S. Dana

New Haven. Ct. May 2nd 1879.

My dear Sir.

I have received both your letters with enclosed samples of arsenic. I feel so much indebted to you for what you have done for me, and the trouble you have taken in my behalf, that I can hardly take to render adequate thanks. The information you have sent is very much to the point and will be of material assistance to me – The samples also I am very glad to have; they will enable me to make my work much more complete than it could otherwise have been. I am sorry that I hurried

you, and as it has proved, unnecessarily. The murder was committed in September last, and the trial was first set for February. When however the date had been deferred till April, but then seemed no possibility of postponement. The ways of the law are not for the uninitiated to understand — the case has been again put over and may not come to trial before October.

I hardly think that such work as I have been called upon to do is quite a legitimate occupation for a scientific man, but having accepted the position under the idea that only a superficial examination was called for, I have now no choice but to do my work as thoroughly as possible — and to make microscopic points clear to a jury requires some care of preparation.

The most important point involved — if you are interested — is in a word this:- The accused (individual — a minister by the way — purchased an ounce of arsenic on the morning of the murder. The last statement of the murdered girl was to her Sister that she was going to meet the Minister in the wood to get some "quick-medicine" which was to relieve her from trouble (she thought she was pregnant by the minister, hence the supposed motive for the murder). Now some 80 grains of arsenic were taken from the girl's stomach! The accused explained this seemingly serious point of evidence (by

Dana (E. S., *Mineralogist*) AUTOGRAPH LETTER SIGNED, New Haven, May 2 1879, 4 pages, on an interesting murder mystery involving arsenic £2

EDW-61

come?

This letter is quoted and its occasion described, in H. Gernsheim, Lewis Carroll, Photogr
(1949), p. 60.